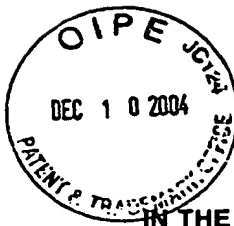


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AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 7599
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10981013-1

R.C.B. #11
RECEIVED
DEC 15 2004
Technology Center 2600

Inventor(s): Ronald D. Larson

Serial No.: 09/172,389

Examiner: Nguyen, K.

Filing Date: 10/14/1998

Group Art Unit: 2671

Title: A Method and Apparatus for Updating a Hierarchical Z Buffer

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENT

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) 37 CFR 1.114

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.114 is effective on May 20, 2000. If the above- application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under CFR 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 off. Gaz. Pat. Office

Submission under 37 CFR 1.114

() Previously submitted:

() Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

() Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.

() Other _____.

(X) Enclosed:

(X) Amendment/Reply

() Affidavit(s)/Declarations(s)

() Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

() Other _____.

Miscellaneous

() Suspension of action is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months.

The fee for this Suspension is (37 CFR 1.17(i)) \$130.00

() Other _____.

12/13/2004 EFLORES 00000100 501078 09172389

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790.00 DA

**CONTINUED EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL
(RCE) (37 CFR 1.114) (continued)**

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10981013-1

(X) RCE filing fee \$790.00

() A Petition for Extension of Time

() one month	\$110.00
() two months	\$430.00
() three months	\$980.00
() four months	\$1530.00

Please charge to Deposit Account 50-1078 the sum of \$790.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

(X) A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald D. Larson

By Robert A. Blaha

Robert A. Blaha

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **43,502**

Date: **12/07/2004**

Telephone No.: **(770) 933-9500**

(X) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: **12/07/2004** or

() I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Date of Facsimile:

Typed Name: **Gloria L. Knox**

Signature: Gloria L. Knox